

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the careful review of the claims, specification, drawings, and election.

*Information Disclosure Statement*

An Information Disclosure Statement is attached. The attached Information Disclosure Statement includes a corrected citation of United States Patent Application 2003/0068444 by Ming-Hwa Yoo.

*Claims*

Claim 1 has been amended.

Claims 11-30 have been canceled.

New claims 31-40 have been added.

After entry of this amendment, claims 1-10 and 31-40 are pending.

It is respectfully submitted that each and every feature recited in the pending claims are fully supported in the application as filed. No new subject matter has been added.

**Rejections under 35 USC § 103**

The Office Action argues that claims 1-7, 9, and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (AAPA) in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication 2003/0137249 to Nakano et al., hereinafter "Nakano."

Applicant hereby amend independent claim 1, as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A plasma processing reactor comprising:

    a chamber having a removable substrate support asymmetric about a vertical axis of said chamber;

    a RF power supply coupled to said chamber, said RF power supply adapted to supply RF power to said chamber to generate a plasma therein; and

a coating of an electrically resistive material selectively disposed on at least one of the substrate support or and a surface of said chamber, the electrically resistive material having an RF impedance different from an RF impedance of an underlying base material of said chamber.

Support for the amendments may be found in, for example, one or more of paragraphs [0009], [0019]-[0020], [0023]-[0025], and [0028] and/or one or more of Figs. 2-4 in this application. The amended claim 1 includes features not taught by AAPA and Nakano. For example, the amended claim 1 includes the features of a coating of an electrically resistive material selectively disposed on at least one of the substrate support or and a surface of the chamber.

In contrast, AAPA and Nakano do not teach such a coating. Nakano teaches slits, fins, and slots, but does not teach coating.

For the above reasons and others, it is respectfully submitted that the amended claim 1 is novel, nonobvious, and patentable over the cited references, alone or in combination.

It is also respectfully submitted that claims 2-10 which depend from the amended claim 1 also are novel, nonobvious, and patentable not only due to their recitations of independently patentable features but also due to their dependence from the patentable parent claim 1.

No new subject matter has been added.

### **New Claims**

#### **Claims 31-35**

New claims 31-35 have been added to depend from the amended claim 1 with support from, for example, one or more of paragraphs [0009], [0018]-[0020], [0023]-[0025], and [0028] and/or one or more of Figs. 2-4 in this application.

It is respectfully submitted that claims 31-35 which depend from the amended claim 1 also are novel, nonobvious, and patentable not only due to their recitations of independently patentable features but also due to their dependence from the patentable parent claim 1. For example, claim 33 includes the features of a continuous film coated on said substrate support and said surface of said chamber. As

another example, claim 35 includes the features that the RF impedance of the electrically resistive material is higher than the RF impedance of the underlying base material of the chamber. In contrast, Nakano teaches a low-resistance conductive path having a lower resistance with respect to the high-frequency current may be provided.

No new subject matter has been added.

Claims 36-40

New independent claim 36 and new claims 38-40 dependent from claim 36 have been added with support from, for example, one or more of paragraphs [0009], [0018]-[0020], [0023]-[0025], and [0028] and/or one or more of Figs. 2-4 in this application.

Claim 36 includes features not taught by AAPA and Nakano. For example, claim 36 includes the features of a coating of an electrically resistive material selectively disposed on at least one of the substrate support or and a surface of the chamber; claim 36 also includes the features that the RF impedance of the electrically resistive material is higher than the RF impedance of the underlying base material of the chamber.

In contrast, AAPA and Nakano do not teach the above example features of claim 36. Nakano teaches slits, fins, and slots, but does not teach coating. Nakano teaches a low-resistance conductive path having a lower resistance with respect to the high-frequency current may be provided, but does not teach an electrically resistive material with an RF impedance that is higher than the RF impedance of the underlying base material of a chamber.

For the above reasons and others, it is respectfully submitted that claim 36 is novel, nonobvious, and patentable over the cited references, alone or in combination.

It is also respectfully submitted that claims 36-40 which depend from claim 36 also are novel, nonobvious, and patentable not only due to their recitations of independently patentable features but also due to their dependence from the patentable parent claim 36.

No new subject matter has been added.

**CONCLUSION**

In view of the discussion herein, Applicant(s) believe that all pending claims are allowable and respectfully request a Notice of Allowance for this application from the Examiner. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the undersigned can be reached at 408-213-9540.

Applicant(s) request a (3) three-month(s) extension of time. A credit card payment in the amount of \$1,050.00 is being submitted herewith in payment of the extension of time fee. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees beyond the amount enclosed which may be required, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-2284 (Order No. LMRX-P160).

Respectfully submitted,  
/Joseph A. Nguyen/Reg. No. 37,899  
Joseph A. Nguyen

Tel: 408-213-9540